

Day 2 - World War I

Entrance task: For 1 point extra credit: Write: What one event do you think most directly resulted in a US declaration of war & why? Due 1 minute after the bell.

Today: The US Declares War - Why?

Homework: Ch. 20-3 - Americans on the European Front



At your tables:

Review each situation and discuss the possible reactions Pres. Wilson could have. With which one do you most agree? Why?

Situation # 1 Europe Goes to War September 1, 1914

___ Ask Congress for a declaration of war against the Central Powers.

___ Ask Congress for a declaration of war against the Allied Powers.

___ Practice strict neutrality and refuse to sell arms to either side.

___ Actively sell arms to either side that is willing and able to buy.

Situation # 2 The Lusitania May 2, 1915

___ Ask Congress for a declaration of war against the Central powers.

___ Halt any further U.S. shipping to Europe.

___ Do nothing and hope the tensions in Europe calm down soon.

___ Demand an apology from Germany, money damages and a commitment not to use submarines again.

Situation #3 March, 1915 The Sinking of the Sussex

___ Ask Congress for a declaration of war against the Central powers.

___ Halt any further U.S. shipping to Europe.

___ Do nothing and hope the tensions in Europe calm down soon.

___ Demand that Germany sign a pledge promising not to sink merchant ships without warning

Situation #4: U.S. loans and investments with the Allies January, 1916

_____ Declare war on Germany

_____ Order all banks and industries to cease trading with any of the combatants in Europe

_____ Declare war on England and France

_____ Do nothing and hope tensions in Europe calm down soon

Situation #5: The Zimmerman Note March 1, 1917

- _____ Ask Congress for a declaration of war against the Central powers
- _____ Halt any further U.S. shipping to Europe
- _____ Do nothing and hope tensions in Europe calm down soon
- _____ Demand an apology from Germany and mobilize American troops on the Mexican border

Situation #6: The Russian Revolution Mid-March 1917

- _____ Ask Congress for a declaration of war against the Central Powers
- _____ Halt any further U.S. shipping to Europe
- _____ Do nothing and hope the tensions in Europe calm down soon
- _____ Send military aid to the newly democratic Russia to prevent the growing Communist threat

Situation # 1 Europe Goes to War September 1, 1914

- _____ Ask Congress for a declaration of war against the Central Powers.
- _____ Ask Congress for a declaration of war against the Allied Powers.
- _____ Practice strict neutrality and refuse to sell arms to either side.
- X** _____ Actively sell arms to either side that is willing and able to buy.

Situation # 2 The Lusitania May 2, 1915

- _____ Ask Congress for a declaration of war against the Central powers.
- _____ Halt any further U.S. shipping to Europe.
- _____ Do nothing and hope the tensions in Europe calm down soon.
- X** _____ Demand an apology from Germany, money damages and a commitment not to use submarines again.

Situation #3 March, 1915 The Sinking of the Sussex

_____ Ask Congress for a declaration of war against the Central powers.

_____ Halt any further U.S. shipping to Europe.

_____ Do nothing and hope the tensions in Europe calm down soon.

X

_____ Demand that Germany sign a pledge promising not to sink merchant ships without warning

Situation #4: U.S. loans and investments with the Allies January, 1916

_____ Declare war on Germany

_____ Order all banks and industries to cease trading with any of the combatants in Europe

_____ Declare war on England and France

X

_____ Do nothing and hope tensions in Europe calm down soon

Situation #5: The Zimmerman Note March 1, 1917

_____ Ask Congress for a declaration of war against the Central powers

_____ Halt any further U.S. shipping to Europe

_____ Do nothing and hope tensions in Europe calm down soon

X

_____ Demand an apology from Germany and mobilize American troops on the Mexican border

Situation #6: The Russian Revolution Mid-March 1917

X

_____ Ask Congress for a declaration of war against the Central Powers

_____ Halt any further U.S. shipping to Europe

_____ Do nothing and hope the tensions in Europe calm down soon

_____ Send military aid to the newly democratic Russia to prevent the growing Communist threat

NOTICE!

TRAVELLERS intending to embark on the Atlantic voyage are reminded that a state of war exists between Germany and her allies and Great Britain and her allies; that the zone of war includes the waters adjacent to the British Isles; that, in accordance with formal notice given by the Imperial German Government, vessels flying the flag of Great Britain, or of any of her allies, are liable to destruction in those waters and that travellers sailing in the war zone on ships of Great Britain or her allies do so at their own risk.

IMPERIAL GERMAN EMBASSY,
WASHINGTON, D. C., APRIL 22, 1915.

"All the News That's Fit to Print"

The New York Times. EXTRA 6-30 A.M.

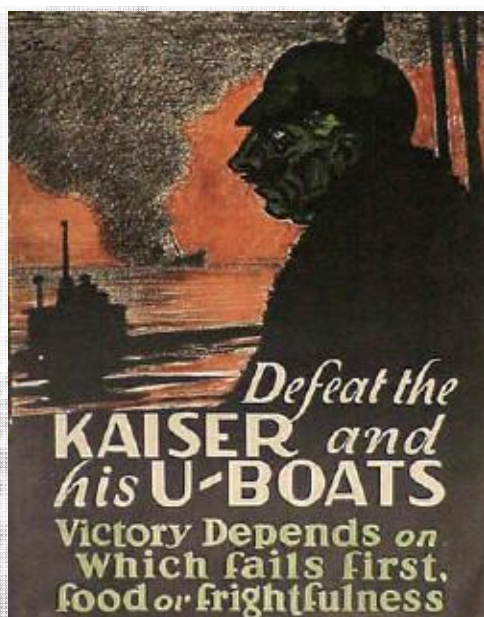
LUSITANIA SUNK BY A SUBMARINE, PROBABLY 1,260 DEAD; TWICE TORPEDOED OFF IRISH COAST; SINKS IN 15 MINUTES; CAPT. TURNER SAVED, FROHMAN AND VANDERBILT MISSING; WASHINGTON BELIEVES THAT A GRAVE CRISIS IS AT HAND



SHOULD THE PRESIDENT...
Washington, D.C., April 22, 1915.
The Lusitania, a British liner, was sunk by a submarine off the coast of Ireland on Monday night. The ship was carrying 1,959 passengers and crew. The sinking is believed to have resulted in the deaths of 1,260 people. The ship was torpedoed twice. Captain Turner was saved, but Frohman and Vanderbilt were missing. Washington believes that a grave crisis is at hand.

Is this an example of yellow journalism?

May 7, 1915



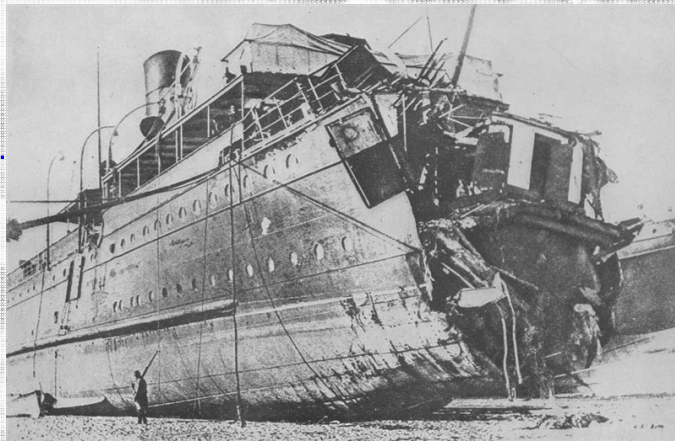
Winston Churchill, head of the British navy during the Great War, wrote the week prior to the Lusitania sinking that it was "most important to attract neutral shipping to our shores, in the hopes especially of embroiling the United States with Germany."

US President Wilson urged Americans to stay calm and remain neutral, but sent a note of protest to Germany, which promised to stop sinking passenger ships without warning as long as they could search them.



The *Sussex*, a French passenger steamship was torpedoed March 24, 1916.

This led to the ***Sussex Pledge***, the US threat to cut diplomatic ties with Germany, which again promised to warn before attacking passenger ships.



Wilson's Dilemma

He couldn't threaten force without entering the war

1916 election - Wilson won a narrow victory for keeping "us out of war"

Feb. 1, 1917 - Germany resumed unrestricted submarine warfare, believing it could defeat Britain before the US could get involved

Feb. 3, 1917 - US broke off diplomatic relations with Germany & Wilson asked for permission to arm US

merchant ships





The Final Straw(s)

The Zimmerman Note - Not considered a serious threat, but a public relations victory for those hoping to draw the US into the war

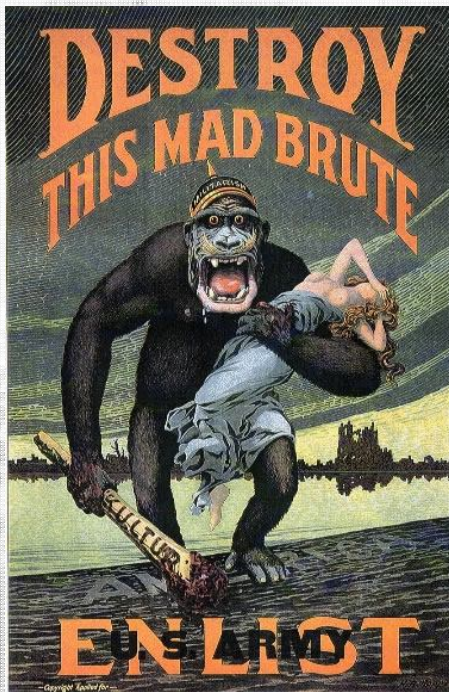


The Final Straw(s)

The Russian Revolution - March 1917

Czar Nicholas II is ousted and replaced by a republican government

With the autocratic government gone, Americans were more comfortable working with the Allies



WAR!!!!

The War Resolution

Germany's sinking of the US
City of Memphis, Illinois, and Vigilancia
between March 16 and 18 pushed
Wilson to act in order to
"make the world safe for democracy."

April 6, 1917 - US was at War

Zimmerman telegram 4:09
Lusitania 2:36

Snap video - The Sinking of the Lusitania
17 minutes

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Homework: Ch. 20-3 - Americans on the European Front

